

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1101

By Evans

A RESOLUTION to honor and recognize Susan Turner Taylor on the occasion of her retirement.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that this legislative body should honor those citizens who have performed with uncommon devotion and enthusiasm throughout their worthy careers in public service; and

WHEREAS, Susan Ercelle Turner Taylor is one such estimable person who has served with distinction for nearly fifteen years as the executive director of Leadership Middle Tennessee, a regional leadership institute established in 1999 that serves the ten-county area of Cheatham, Davidson, Dickson, Maury, Montgomery, Robertson, Rutherford, Sumner, Williamson, and Wilson counties; and

WHEREAS, under Mrs. Taylor's astute guidance, Leadership Middle Tennessee helps community leaders develop a unity of purpose and meet regional challenges with regional vision and engages community, business, and government leaders in an annual regional leadership program and subsequent alumni activities designed to encourage and promote a regional perspective on current issues; and

WHEREAS, simply put, Leadership Middle Tennessee provides a forum through which the cities, communities, and counties of Middle Tennessee can work more effectively together; and

WHEREAS, Susan Taylor has provided inspired leadership and proficient service to Leadership Middle Tennessee, which is administered through the Dean's Office in the Jennings A. Jones College of Business at Middle Tennessee State University (MTSU); and

WHEREAS, a native of Raleigh, North Carolina, Mrs. Taylor moved to Murfreesboro with her family in 1945, when her father, an FBI special agent, was transferred there; and

WHEREAS, she has enjoyed marital bliss with her husband, Royce Taylor, for forty-nine years; she traveled with him during his active duty in the United States Navy, as they made their home in Yokosuka, Japan; Pensacola, Florida; Meridian, Mississippi; Norfolk, Virginia; and San Diego, California; and

WHEREAS, in 1972, they moved back to Royce's family farm and continue to make their home there; and

WHEREAS, Susan Turner Taylor received her B.A. degree in Sociology, Psychology, and Biology from Wake Forest University in 1966 and earned a second B.A. degree in Sociology, Psychology, and History from MTSU in 1983; she later served as a development officer at MTSU before assuming the reins of leadership as executive director of Leadership Middle Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, she is a member of Daughters of the American Revolution, Tennessee Association of Community Leadership, Rutherford County Chamber of Commerce, CABLE of Rutherford County, and Oaklands Historic Home Association; and

WHEREAS, Susan and Royce Taylor are most grateful for the love and companionship they share with their children and their spouses, Clay Taylor and his wife, Dr. Wendy Rosenbek; Shannon Taylor Davenport and her husband, Terry Davenport; and Cameron Taylor and her husband, Mark Woodcock; and their grandchildren, Bryce Taylor, Natalie, Allyson, and Lance Davenport, and Sophia and Oliver Woodcock; and

WHEREAS, throughout her estimable career, Mrs. Taylor demonstrated the utmost professionalism, ability, and integrity, winning the unbridled respect and admiration of her colleagues, elected officials, and the grateful citizens of Middle Tennessee; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that that we extend to Susan Turner Taylor our heartfelt wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement and every continued success in her future endeavors, as we pay tribute to her exemplary tenure as executive director of Leadership Middle Tennessee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.